



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/647,475	08/26/2003	Lim Su Lee	8733.311.10-US	2307
30827	7590	12/11/2007	EXAMINER	
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP			MARKOFF, ALEXANDER	
1900 K STREET, NW			ART UNIT	
WASHINGTON, DC 20006			PAPER NUMBER	
			1792	
			MAIL DATE	
			DELIVERY MODE	
			12/11/2007	
			PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/647,475

Applicant(s)

LEE, LIM SU

Examiner

Alexander Markoff

Art Unit

1792

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 16, 18, 23-25, 28-30 and 32-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13, 16, 18, 23-25, 28-30 and 32-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 13, 16, 18, 23-25, 28-30 and 32-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moinpour et al (US Patent No 5,901,399) in view of Fishkin et al (US Patent No 6,202,658) and Hashimoto et al (US Patent No 6,261,378).

Moinpour et al and Fishkin et al both teach cleaning substrates with brushes and sprays. Both documents are concerned about cleaning side surfaces of the substrates during cleaning of the main surfaces. Both documents teach brushing of the main surfaces and spraying the side surfaces. Moinpour et al teach the use of cylindrical brushes and a liquid jet to clean the side surfaces. See at least Figures 2c, 3, 6 and 7 and the related description. The document does not specify whether or not the liquid jet

is energized. Fishkin et al teach the use of ultrasonic liquid jet to clean the side surfaces. Having the combined teachings of the cited documents it would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made to use ultrasonic spray in the method of Moinpour et al to further enhance disclosed cleaning because the documents teach the action of brushes and ultrasonics to solve the same problem. An ordinary artisan would have been reasonably expected that the use of combined action would improve the side cleaning results.

Moinpour et al and Fishkin et al do not specifically recite application of their methods to LCD substrates. Both of the documents are mainly directed to cleaning semiconductor wafers. Fishkin et al, however, teach that the method can be applied to glass substrates.

Hashimoto et al teach that the same method of cleaning are conventionally applied to semiconductor wafers and glass substrates, such LCD glass substrates.

Having combined teachings of Moinpour et al, Fishkin et al and Hashimoto et al it would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made to apply a modified method of Moinpour et al to LCD glass substrates with reasonable expectation of success in order to have the substrates cleaned.

As to the limitation requiring moving of the substrate in a linear direction and the brushes being parallel to the referenced direction: it is noted that Moinpour et al show that in a scrubber the substrate is not only rotated, but also is moving through the scrubber in a linear direction. See at least Figure 3 the related description. It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made that the brushes

shown on Figures 2c, 6, and 7 should be parallel to the direction of the movement to enable the movement.

As to the limitation requiring cleaning of two side surfaces: It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made that all surfaces of the LCD substrate should be cleaned. It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made to provide and use an additional brush and an additional spraying device in the modified method of Moinpour et al in order to clean opposing surfaces of the LCD substrate in a single move in order to enhance cleaning. It is noted that, it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 9/13/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicants amended the claims and argue that the applied prior art does not teach or suggest brushing the side surface of the substrate with with a cylindrical brush that rotates around an axis, which is parallel to the linear directiojn of the substrate movement.

The examiner disagrees:

Moinpour et al show that in a scrubber the substrate is not only rotated, but also is moving through the scrubber in a linear direction. See at least Figure 3 the related description. Moinpour et al also show cylindrical brushes, which are parallel to the sides

of the substrate (at least Figures 2c, 7). It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made that the brushes shown on Figures 2c, 6, and 7 should be parallel to the direction of the movement to enable the movement because they are parallel to the sides of the moving substrate.

The applicants further argue that the applied prior art does not teach cleaning of the two side surfaces.

The examiner disagrees:

It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made that all surfaces of the LCD substrate should be cleaned. It would have been obvious to an ordinary artisan at the time the invention was made to provide and use an additional brush and an additional spraying device in the modified method of Moinpour et al in order to clean opposing surfaces of the LCD substrate in a single move in order to enhance cleaning. It is noted that, it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

Further, in response to applicant's arguments the examiner would like to note that one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). The examiner cited Hashimoto et al, which teach that the same method of cleaning are conventionally applied to semiconductor wafers and glass substrates, such LCD glass substrates. It is also noted that it would have been obvious to an ordinary

artisan at the time the invention was made that all sides of the LCD substrate should be cleaned.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Markoff whose telephone number is 571-272-1304. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on 571-272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number:
10/647,475
Art Unit: 1792

Page 7

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Alexander Markoff
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1792

AM

ALEXANDER MARKOFF
PRIMARY EXAMINER